PHOTOS IN ARCHIVES

From: Nancy Sherrill
To: CMcClain@tntech.edu
Date: 12/1/2006 1:42:39 PM
Subject: A. J. Crawford

Hello,

Your query was forwarded to me. I checked the various Vigo County histories and did find several references to A. J. Crawford. There seems to be some disagreement whether his name was Alexander J. or Andrew J. H. W. Beckwith's 1880 History of Vigo and Parke Counties has a brief biographical sketch of A. J. Crawford on page 330. At that time he was president of the Wabash Iron Works, which was incorporated in 1873. He was a native of Pennsylvania and had been a resident of Terre Haute for about ten years. He and his brother were "among the most wealthy, enterprising, and prominent of Terre Haute's business men."

H. C. Bradsby's 1891 History of Vigo County contains several references to Alexander and A. J. Crawford. Alexander Crawford is mentioned on pages 483 and 484. Alexander had died "the present year" (1891) at his home in New Castle PA. His sons, A. J. and James P., were the leading iron mongers of Indiana. Alexander was survived by four sons and a daughter. Page 484 states that the Wabash Iron Co. was incorporated by Alexander Crawford and his sons, A. J. and J. P., and two of Alexander's brothers, J. A. and G. W. Crawford. There is a lengthy biographical sketch of A. J. Crawford on page 719.

A recent history by county historian Mike McCormick (Terre Haute, Queen City of the Wabash) refers to A. J. as Andrew and mentions him on pages 52. 56, 57, 62, 98, and 99. On page 98 McCormick states, "When dwindling Great Lakes ore deposits and cheap labor in the South hurt the smelting business, the Crawfords built a factory in Tennessee but kept local mills functioning."

There are references to A. J. or Andrew J. Crawford in some histories that are online. Visit our web site at www.vigo.lib.in.us/vcplspc/, scan down the left side of the screen and click on "Local History Books Online." Go to "General Histories" and click on "The Historical and Industrial Record of the Prairie City." Andrew or A. J. is mentioned on page 20, columns one to three, and page 21, column three. The images of the pages may be downloaded if you have Acrobat Reader on your computer. The files have been broken down to make them faster to download. Pages 20 and 21 are in "parts" 22 and 23. Then go to "Specialized Materials" and "Biography." Click on "Some Terre Haute Phizes." There is a humorous sketch of A. J.'s son John L. Crawford on page 165 or part 34.

The Mike McCormick book is recent, and there are circulating copies so you could probably borrow a copy on interlibrary loan. We could send you copies from the Beckwith and Bradsby books for $3.00, which may be sent to my attention at Vigo County Public Library, One Library Square, Terre Haute IN 47807.

Nancy Sherrill
Genealogy Librarian

From: Laura Mitchell
To: nsherrill
Date: 12/1/2006 9:16:27 AM
Subject: Fwd: WWW Question - Col. Alexander J. Crawford

An SPC question

>>> Charlene Mcclain <CMcClain@tntech.edu> 11/30/06 10:01 PM >>>
Dear Librarian,

I work at TENNESSEE TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY in Cookeville, TN and in the Circulation Department of the Volpe Library. I am researching a man who once lived in Terre Haute by the name of Col. Alexander J. (known here as A. J.) Crawford. He was the man who is given credit of bringing the railroads to our city, and as I have found, he purchased hundreds of acres of land near Monterey, TN (about 16 miles east of here) sometime ca. 1887-1888. There was a hugh discovery of coal and he wanted to use the railroad to transport the coal out of the area. I have many newspaper clippings with his name mentioned and many researchers of the past has given him much credit for growth of this area.

I am looking for a good biography of this man and since I know from old newspaper clippings he gave Terre Haute as his home, I always try the library first.

Can you help me? I would be most grateful for any information.

Warm regards,

Charlene McClain
Night Supervisor
Circulation Dept.
TTU Volpe Library and Media Center
cmcclain@tntech.edu

HH IHL III

Nancy Sherrill

From: Nancy Sherrill
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2008 4:24 PM
To: 'Ken'
Subject: RE: Andrew J. Crawford

Hello,

I too believe the steamboat was probably named after Andrew J.'s daughter. According to Oakey's history, Andrew's wife was Anna E., and the daughter was Anna M.

Nancy Sherrill

Nancy Sherrill

From: Ken [mccull_k@bellsouth.net]
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2008 4:13 PM
To: Nancy Sherrill
Subject: Re: Andrew J. Crawford

Ms. Sherrill,

Thank you for the reply and information, I do appreciate it. I am writing a book about the steamboats on the Coosa river in NE Alabama and NW Georgia. The Crawfords built their first in 1883, named the A.L. Crawford, but she sank in 1887. In 1888, the company built another boat, the Annie M. I am looking for documentation as to who the boat was named for. I have found it was named for the wife of A.J., and for his daughter, Anna M. The daughter would have been about 10 years old in 1888, and that, and the middle initial, "M", and the common nickname "Annie" leads me to think the boat was named for her.

This be more than you wanted to know, but just to thank you again,
Ken McCulloch

---------- Original message from "Nancy Sherrill" <nsherrill@vigo.lib.in.us>: ----------

Hello,

Your query was forwarded to me. A few days ago I received a similar query from Frank Kellett Sr. and found quite a bit of information on the Crawfords. I will send you a copy of my reply to Mr. Kellett.

Your letter regarding the steamboat *Leota* was forwarded to me by the Vigo County Historical Society. Our Crawford family file contains an article, "Crawford began rolling mills in area," from the 19 May 1979 Saturday Spectator. It was written by Frances E. Hughes. According to this article, "In the early 1870s, A. L. Crawford [Alexander] of Newcastle, Pa., sent his son, Andrew J. Crawford to Terre Haute to open two blast furnaces and establish rolling mills. The father was married to Mary R. List in the oldest Presbyterian Church in Pennsylvania....A. L. Crawford had opened a blast furnace in Newcastle, Pa., which was thriving, and wanted his son to enter the same kind of business....Andrew J. Crawford had married Anne Ibinson of Newcastle, Pa." Andrew J. and Anne had five children: Alexander, Molly, James A., John List, and Anna. The daughter Anna married John C. Bartlett. Andrew J.'s brother, James P. Crawford, also came to Terre Haute. A biographical sketch of Andrew J. Crawford was written by county historian Mike McCormick and is available online at http://web.indstate.edu/community/vchs/wvp/!crawfor.pdf. Andrew Crawford is also frequently mentioned in the various Vigo County histories. Some of the Vigo County histories are available online from the library's web site at http://www.vigo.lib.in.us/general/archives_onlinebooks.asp. Under "General Histories" check the index to the Historical Industrial Record of the Prairie City. The Crawfords are on pages 286, 287, and 645 of Greater Terre Haute and Vigo County and pages 134, 390, and 454 of History of Indiana from Its Exploration, also an Account of Vigo County.

If you would like copies of the Saturday Spectator article as well as copies from Bradsby's 1891 History of Vigo County, which is not online, send $2.00 to my attention at Vigo County Public Library, One Library Square, Terre Haute IN 47807.

If you need more information, please let me know.

Nancy Sherrill
Genealogy Librarian

Nancy Sherrill

From: Nancy Sherrill

Sent: Friday, December 19, 2008 9:56 AM

To: 'fkellett@bellsouth.net'

Subject: RE: A. L. Crawford

Hello,

I received your letter of Dec. 16. Thanks for the photos of the steamboats. The Leota or Annie M. was a fairly nice boat. I am sending you the copies from the Saturday Spectator and Bradsby's history. I also included copies from Oakey's history. I noticed that Bradsby said that Andrew J.'s wife was Emma Ivenson whereas the other histories say she was Ann E. Ibinson. Andrew J. also had a daughter named Anna, and Oakey's history gives her name as Anna M. She married a Bartlett, but in 1888 she would have been about ten years old. Note that the 1880 census of Vigo County lists 42 year old Andrew Crawford, his 34 year old wife Anna, and children Alexander, 13; Mary, 10; James, 7; John, 5; and Anna, 2. There was also a 63 year old Anna Ivinson in the household, and she was probably Andrew's mother-in-law. The family apparently favored the name Anna.

Nancy Sherrill

Frank Kellett Sr.
424 East Air Depot Road
Glencoe AL 35905

9 photocopies = .90
postage = .64

December 16, 2008

Nancy Sherrill,
Genealogy Librarian
Vigo County Public Library
One Library Square
Terre Haute, IN 47807

Dear Ms. Sherrill:

Enclosed please find poor pictures of two steamboats that plied our Coosa River in Gadsden, Alabama. The top picture is of the A. L. Crawford. This boat was used to carry logs to make charcoal for the pig iron furnace. Named after Mr. A. L. Crawford of Terre Haute. The Bottom picture is the Leota, built as the Annie M in 1888 by Coosa Iron Company and was reported named after the company manager. The U. S. corp of Engineers changed name to Leota.

The Annie M/ Leota has so much history and much of it has been unpublished for the people of our county. They more we look and find the better it gets. Beginning with Mr. Crawford and his family, and then to Tom Sims who wrote the comic strip in 1938 of "Popeye the Sailorman", and on to Mary Elizabeth Counselman, author of many stories and books.

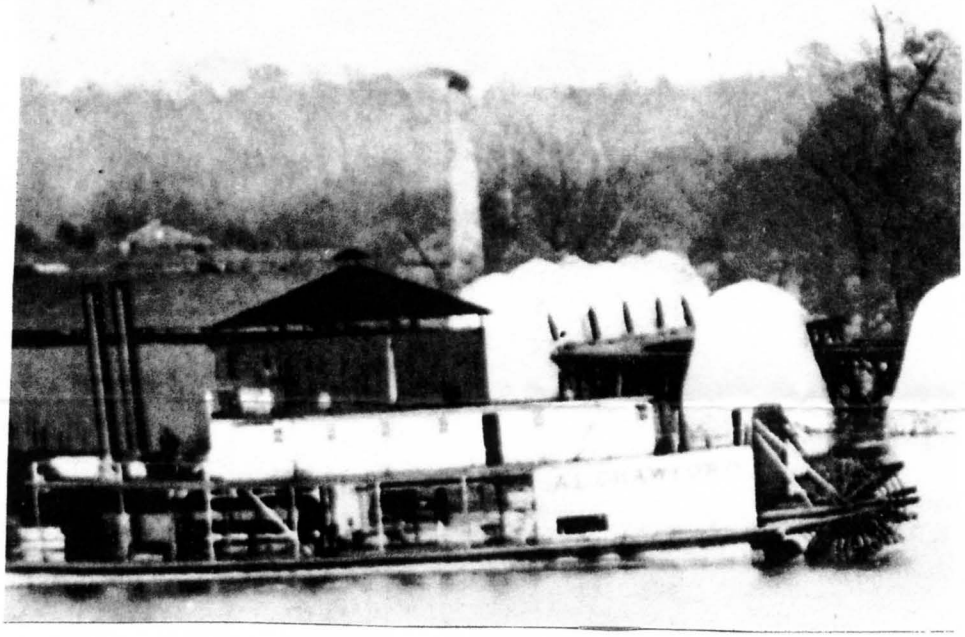
We are planning to erect a marker close to the spot where the Leota sank 1n 1945. She was the last steamboat on the Coosa River.

I am unable to find who Annie M was. She was said to the wife of the iron company manager. Her name was Annie M Crawford. This name was not in your names of the Crawford family of Terre Haute.

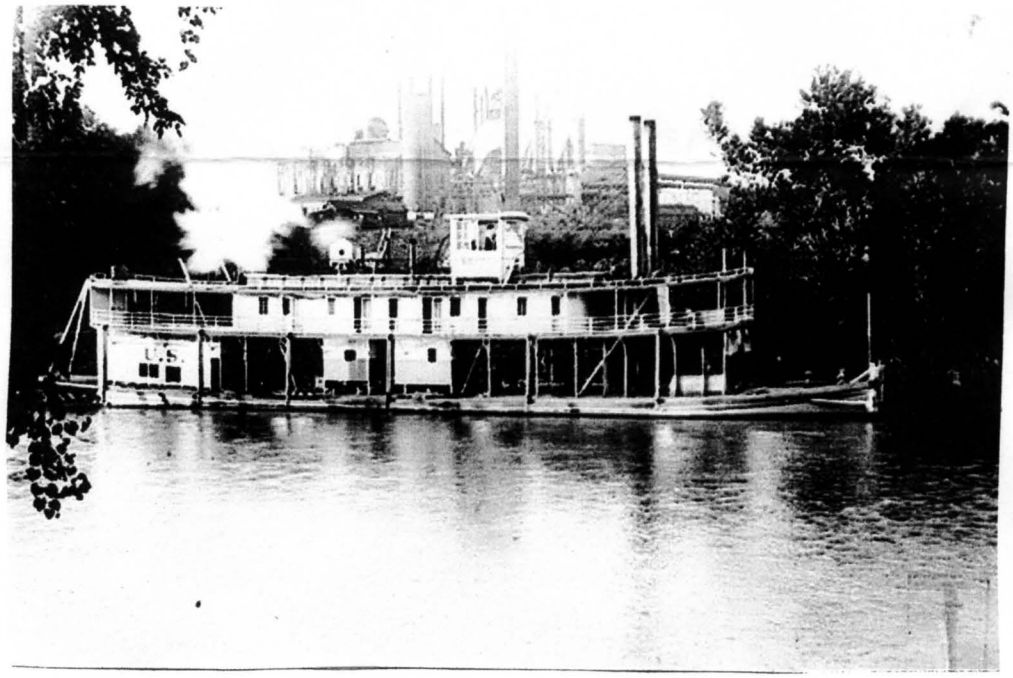
I have enclosed $2.00 for Saturday Spectator, and Bradsby's 1891 History of Vigo County. Thanks so much for your help.

Sincerely,

Frank Kellett sr.



THE STEAMER A. L. CRAWFORD -- NO.106190--TIED UP AT KYLE'S DURING FLOOD OF 1886.



THE STEAMER LEOTA--NO.106553--BUILT IN 1888 BY COOSA IRON COMPANY,AND NAMED ANNIE M AFTER THE WIFE OF THE MANAGER. BOUGHT BY U. S. CORP OF ENGINEERS AND CHANGED NAME TO LEOTA. THIS PICTURE IS OF THE LEOTA IN FRONT OF CONSOLADATED IRON COMPANY, AFTER 1913.

From: Nancy Sherrill
To: Mcclain, Charlene
Date: 12/7/2006 11:25:40 AM
Subject: RE: A. J. Crawford

Hello,

The obituary of Alexander L. Crawford appeared in the Terre Haute Evening Gazette on 2 July 1902. That film is badly scratched, but I also found the obit in the Weekly Gazette of July 3, 1902. This Alexander died at his home at the corner of Oak and Center Streets (about two blocks from the library). He was born in 1866 so he couldn't have served in the Civil War. According to the obit, upon the death of his uncle, James P. Crawford, he succeeded him as secretary of the Wabash and Vigo iron mills. He was survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Crawford; two brothers, John and James; and two sisters, Mrs. Frank Kidder and Mrs. John Crawford Bartlett (?). He also left a wife and two children, Dorothy and Andrew J.

The obituary of Andrew J. Crawford appeared in the 21 July 1903 Evening Gazette. According to the obit, "Mr. Crawford was accustomed to speak of himself as a 'retired' man because he had sold his iron interests and his great railroad in Tennessee..." The obituary also states that "on May 15th, 1899, shortly before the death of his brother and partner Mr. James Crawford, Mr. A. J. Crawford effected what he has always spoken of as a most successful sale of the iron mills to the Republic Iron Co.....Two years later Mr. Crawford made an equally fortunate sale of the Nashville & Knoxville Railway owned by himself and his brothers and sisters." Still later the obit says that "Mr. Crawford's father died a number of years ago at the advanced age of seventy years. He left sons and daughters as follows: John L., Hugh A., Alexander J., James P., and Mrs. S. L. Hoyt." So the question remains--was there an Alexander J. and an Andrew J? Just what was A. J.'s name?

I also found the obituary of Mrs. A. J. Crawford in the 10 Jan. 1910 Tribune, but it doesn't add too much information. If you would like copies of the above obituaries, the charge is $2.00 each. You may send payment to Special Collections, Vigo County Public Library, One Library Square, Terre Haute IN 47807.

Nancy Sherrill

From: Charlene Mcclain <CMcClain@tntech.edu>
To: Nancy Sherrill <NSHERRILL@vigo.lib.in.us>
Date: 12/6/2006 8:21:36 PM
Subject: RE: A. J. Crawford

Hello Nancy,

You have helped me so much already with this e-mail and I truly thank you.
Can you answer one more question if you know it? The WABASH VALLEY PROFILES on Andrew Crawford states in the last line that "son Alexander predeceased him" and what I think, but do not know for sure, could this be the man that came to Tennessee and purchased all the land in Monterey and is given credit for getting the railroad built to this area....and even later the railroad went on to Knoxville? All the newspaper clippings from information given to the DAILY AMERICAN newspaper in Nashville, TN by the railroad gives his name as Col. Alexander J. Crawford. I know that the information I found from a researcher states that Col. A. J. Crawford hired a man named Robert John Moscript to help with the survey for the tracks before 1890, in fact, the articles I have found state that he died before the tracks reach Monterey which is about 16 miles east of Cookeville. Moscript moved his family here and one article said that one of his daughters died and the family was unable to reach him because he was working out west for the railroad company and could not attend the funeral. Moscript was one of the people we researched and included in a cemetery walk here for the Cookeville History Museum in September, 2006.
I have found one article where a hotel in Nashville listed all the new arrivals staying there in 1890 and Col. A. J. Crawford from Terre Haute was named. This is another piece of information which detailed his residence in Indiana.
One more question, do you know if he served in the Civil War and for which side? I can not find if he served.

Thank you again for any small pieces. I will get our ILL department to get as much as they can, and if they are unable I will send the money for copies. Please have a wonderful holiday season.

Warmest regards,

Charlene McClain

-----Original Message-----
From: Nancy Sherrill [mailto:NSHERRILL@vigo.lib.in.us]
Sent: Friday, December 01, 2006 12:43 PM
To: Charlene Mcclain
Subject: A. J. Crawford

Hello,
Your query was forwarded to me. I checked the various Vigo County histories and did find several references to A. J. Crawford. There seems to be some disagreement whether his name was Alexander J. or Andrew J. H. W. Beckwith's 1880 History of Vigo and Parke Counties has a brief biographical sketch of A. J. Crawford on page 330. At that time

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Nancy Sherrill
Genealogy Librarian

CC: Charlene Mcclain <CMcClain@tntech.edu>

WABASH VALLEY PROFILES

A series of tributes to hometown people and events that have shaped our history.

Andrew Crawford

For nearly a century, iron and steel fabrication was a major Vigo County industry. Rolled iron exhibiting the label "Made in Terre Haute" once signified the finest grade available, a guarantee of excellence.

The "iron and steel era" began in 1869 with the arrival of Alexander L. Crawford and his oldest son Andrew from Newcastle, Pa. The pair founded Vigo Iron Co., a blast furnace on the east side of 13th Street near College Ave. Four years later, they built Wabash Iron Co., a rolling mill soon known as the "Nail Works" at Second and Spruce streets. More than 100 steel workers relocated here to work for the two Crawford enterprises.

By 1880 when Andrew J. Crawford assumed management of the local mills, the blast furnace employed 300 people and produced 15,000 tons of pig iron, mill iron and Bessemer steel annually. Before Alexander's death in 1890, the assets of the Nail Works were transferred to Terre Haute Iron & Steel, a stock company with 500 employees producing 600 kegs of nails daily. Other local businessmen invested, but Andrew, as president, held the majority interest. Andrew's three brothers, particularly James F. Crawford, were active in management.

During an era when mills often ceased production during winters and slow business cycles, the Terre Haute plants rarely closed even if temporarily unprofitable. Crawford was nationally renowned for marketing special "Terre Haute" brands. His unassuming manner was effective. By treating employees well during difficult times, he cultivated allegiance.

When dwindling Great Lakes ore deposits and cheaper Southern labor impaired the local smelting business, Crawford built an ironworks in Gadsden, Tenn., but kept local mills functioning. In 1899, as his health began to fail, he sold the two mills to Republic Steel. Both mills were closed in 1901. However, by that time foundries, casting firms and related iron and steel enterprises — most serving the railroad, automobile and coal industries — began situating here.

When Crawford died at his elegant 405 S. Sixth Street residence on July 29, 1903, at age 66, he was reputed to be Terre Haute's wealthiest citizen. Besides steel mill interests, he was president and stockholder of Crawford Coal Col., Kester Motor Co., Terre Haute Electric Light Co., Vigo Clay Co., Portland Mining Co. (in British Columbia), Home Coal Co., Nashville & Knoxville Railroad and Sligo Iron Co. of St. Louis. He also served as vice president of the U.S. Trust Co. and director of National State Bank (both predecessors of Terre Haute First National Bank). In addition, he impressed local officials with his fiscal shrewdness during his two terms on the Terre Haute City Council.

Ann (Ibinson) Crawford, Andrew's wife since Dec. 26, 1865, daughters Mary Kidder and Anna Bartlett, and sons James A. and John L. Crawford survived him. Son Alexander predeceased him.

TERRE HAUTE First NATIONAL BANK
(812) 238-6000
Always Close to Home

Alexander L. Crawford - 35 - 2 July
1902 p1 c6 Gaz Weekly Gazette July 3, 1902 p1 - Baker
S. Carolina
Andrew J. 21 July 1903 p1 c6 Gaz
mrs. aj - 10 Jan 1910 p1 Irish

Should be 20

Alex Crawford 3 Feb 1907 p4 Star

Andrew J. son of Alexander & Mary Crawford

Neal son Alexander & who d. 1902

From: Charlene Mcclain <CMcClain@tntech.edu>
To: Nancy Sherrill <NSHERRILL@vigo.lib.in.us>
Date: 12/7/2006 7:37:19 PM
Subject: THANK YOU AGAIN

Dear Nancy,

My most sincere thanks once again for your wonderful news.....I really think I can figure out this family now with your added information. This will be a wonderful story when I am finished, I hope!!!!! You have been great help on my research.

I have the family as follows:
Andrew J. Crawford, his wife Anna, and their children according to ages, Alexander, Mary, James, John, and the youngest child was also Anna. James Crawford was the brother of Andrew and they left Pennsylvania for Terre Haute sometime between 1870 and 1873. I am not sure exactly the time frame, but I will continue to work on the exact facts.

Andrew J. and James Crawford were born in Pennsylvania and their father was Alexander, and this Alexander was the one with the money originally to invest. I do believe the grandson also named Alexander was the one that came to Cookeville and spent some of the family money investing in the railroad.....the man I wrote you about named Robert John Moscript was born in Canada and he became acquainted with the younger Alexander during some railroad meetings. During this particular time, the railroads were building as fast as they could.....transportation was the important factor to ship the products to market. It is getting clearer as I find other interesting bits of information about the railroads.

Thank you for going above and beyond to help me.

Warmest regards,

Charlene

CC: Charlene Mcclain <CMcClain@tntech.edu>

Nancy Sherrill

From: Nancy Sherrill

Sent: Friday, December 12, 2008 11:22 AM

To: 'fkellett@bellsouth.net'

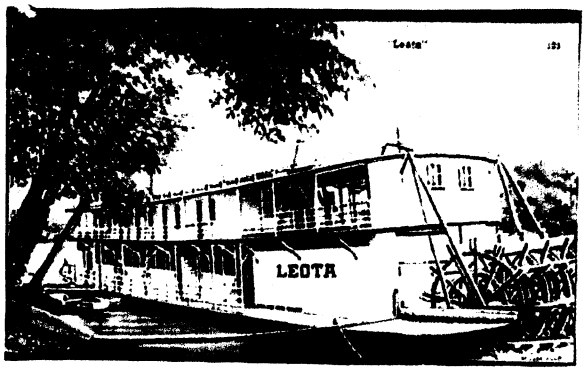
Subject: A. L. Crawford

Hello,

Your letter regarding the steamboat *Leota* was forwarded to me by the Vigo County Historical Society. Our Crawford family file contains an article, "Crawford began rolling mills in area," from the 19 May 1979 Saturday Spectator. It was written by Frances E. Hughes. According to this article, "In the early 1870s, A. L. Crawford [Alexander] of Newcastle, Pa., sent his son, Andrew J. Crawford to Terre Haute to open two blast furnaces and establish rolling mills. The father was married to Mary R. List in the oldest Presbyterian Church in Pennsylvania....A. L. Crawford had opened a blast furnace in Newcastle, Pa., which was thriving, and wanted his son to enter the same kind of business....Andrew J. Crawford had married Anne Ibinson of Newcastle, Pa." Andrew J. and Anne had five children: Alexander, Molly, James A., John List, and Anna. The daughter Anna married John C. Bartlett. Andrew J.'s brother, James P. Crawford, also came to Terre Haute. A biographical sketch of Andrew J. Crawford was written by county historian Mike McCormick and is available online at http://web.indstate.edu/community/vchs/wvp/!crawfor.pdf. Andrew Crawford is also frequently mentioned in the various Vigo County histories. Some of the Vigo County histories are available online from the library's web site at http://www.vigo.lib.in.us/general/archives_onlinebooks.asp. Under "General Histories" check the index to the Historical Industrial Record of the Prairie City. The Crawfords are on pages 286, 287, and 645 of Greater Terre Haute and Vigo County and pages 134, 390, and 454 of History of Indiana from Its Exploration, also an Account of Vigo County.

If you would like copies of the Saturday Spectator article as well as copies from Bradsby's 1891 History of Vigo County, which is not online, send $2.00 to my attention at Vigo County Public Library, One Library Square, Terre Haute IN 47807.

Nancy Sherrill
Genealogy Librarian



Read 12-12-08 from West. Soc
no SASE

THE LEOTA

THE LAST STEAMBOAT ON THE COOSA

VIGO COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
1411 SOUTH 6TH STREET
TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA 47802

DEAR HISTORICAL SOCIETY:

I AM SEEKING INFORMATION ABOUT THE A. L. CRAWFORD FAMILY. HE WAS THE MANAGER OF THE GADSDEN FURNANCE. OF THE COOSA CONSOLADATED IRON CO. HIS WIFE WAS NAMED ANNIE M. CRAWFORD. THIS GROUP BUILT A STEAMBOAT AND NAMED IT THE ANNIE M. I AM FRANK KELLETT SR. AND A MEMBER OF THE ETOWAH HISTORICAL SOCIETY. WE ARE RESEARCHING FOR FACTS ABOUT THE STEAMBOAT ANNIE M.

THE GOVERNMENT PURCHASED THIS BOAT IN 1913, AND USED IT TO CLEAR THE COOSA RIVER. THEY CHANGED THE NAME TO LEOTA.

THERE IS A LOT OF HISTORY ALL THE LIFE OF THE ANNIE M/ LEOTA. WE HAVE FOUND VERY LITTLE ABOUT A. L. CRAWFORD FAMILY. ONE REPORT WE HAVE IS STATING MR. CRAWFORD LIVED IN TERRE HAUTE. PLEASE SEND US ANY INFORMATION WHEN YOU HAVE THE TIME TO SEARCH FOR THIS.

SINCERELY,

F. K. Kellett

FRANK KELLETT SR.

fkellett@bellsouth.net

FRANK A. KELLETT SR.
424 East Air Depot Road
Glencoe, Al 35905-1406

Crawford Family

Special Collections

REFERENCE
DO NOT CIRCULATE

Sunday, October 12, 1952.
Tribune Star

Historical Group Dinner To Honor Charter Member

A lifetime of service to her community and interest in its history will be recognized by friends of Miss Florence Crawford this week at a dinner arranged by the Vigo County Historical Society.

Miss Crawford, retired chief librarian of Emaline Fairbanks Memorial Library, will be the honor guest Tuesday evening at a gathering of society members and others of her friends in the Crawford Lounge of the Y.W.C.A. October 14 has been named Florence Crawford Day and will be the occasion for well-deserved tribute from many who have been closely associated with Miss Crawford and are acquainted with the valuable contributions she has made to the community and to the Historical Society.

As a charter member of the local group, she has watched its growth and progress—not as a spectator but as an active participant—and has been instrumental in developing many of its projects. While genealogy is her forte—and many a family tree has been "uprooted" as a result of her diligent work—local history has claimed an almost equally large share of her interest and efforts. Miss Crawford has authored histories of many towns and counties, using as her source of information letters, family Bibles and diaries to supplement the more customary means such as newspapers, court records and other published material.

Among those who will pay tribute to Miss Crawford at Tuesday's dinner meeting are Harold F. Brigham, director of the Indiana State Library, and Howard Peckam, director of the State Historical Bureau and secretary of the State Historical Society, both of Indianapolis. Others will include many of her fellow-members in local organizations. In addition to the Historical Society, she holds membership in the Daughters of the American Revolution, Daughters of American Colonists, Altrusa Club, Society of Indiana Pioneers and Delta Kappa Gamma.

Miss Juliet Peddle, vice president, has stated that all interested persons are welcome to attend both the dinner and program. Reservations may be made with Miss Peddle at C-1511 during the day and H-8089 evenings, or with Miss Mabel Anstead at C-4192. The dinner is scheduled for 6:15 o'clock and the program will start at 7:30 o'clock. Reservations are to be made by noon Monday.

VIGO COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

The Terre Haute Tribune-Star.
Oct-19-52

MISS FLORENCE CRAWFORD as she received tributes from friends and fellow members of the Vigo County Historical Society at a dinner given in her honor. As a teacher in the city schools and later chief librarian at Emeline Fairbanks Memorial Library, Miss Crawford made great contributions to the community through her genealogical studies and her research in local and county history. She was presented with a life membership in the society which she was instrumental in organizing.

Andrew Crawford.

Crawford began rolling mills in area

Family – Genealogy Sp MAY 19 1979

By Frances E. Hughes

In the early 1870s, A. L. Crawford of Newcastle, Pa., sent his son, Andrew J. Crawford to Terre Haute to open two blast furnaces and establish rolling mills.

The father was married to Mary R. List in the oldest Presbyterian Church in Pennsylvania, Old Norriton Church on a corner of a farm owned by the Rittenhouse family, on December 8, 1836. He was descended from an Andrew Crawford who had come to this country from Scotland before 1721 and settled in Norristown, Pa., where he built a large stone mansion surrounded by a formal garden.

A. L. Crawford had opened a blast furnace in Newcastle, Pa., which was thriving, and wanted his son to enter the same kind of business.

The ground for the local mills was given for that purpose by the city of Terre Haute. One mill, called the Wabash Iron Works, was located near Woodlawn Cemetery on North Third Street and the other, first called the Vigo Iron Company and later the Terre Haute Iron and Nail Works, was where Stran-Steel is now located on Crawford Street.

Andrew J. Crawford had married Anne Ibinson of Newcastle, Pa. When they first came here, they lived in the two-story frame house on Ohio Street just back of the Odd Fellows Temple, which is still standing.

Later, they moved into the fine large two-story brick house at 405 South Sixth Street, which is still standing. This house had been built by Demas Deming for his family home. When it was completed, his wife didn't like it and would not move into it. So, in 1873, Crawford bought it and moved his family there.

Andrew and Anne had five children. First, there was Alexander who married Isabel Perdue. They had two children, a son, Andrew; and a daughter, Dorothy, who married Leonard Mace and had three children.

Next was Molly, who married Frank Kidder of Ridge Farm, Ill., and had one daughter, Anna. Anna married Harry Cole and had two daughters, the late Mrs. Louise Mendenhall, Frances, who married Robert Westrup and lives at 63 Monterey Avenue. Frances has two children.

Another son was James A., who married Mary Louella Lewis. They had one daughter, Helen, who married William T. Hughes, and now lives at 1615 South Twenty-fifth Street.

Another son was John List Crawford, who married Elizabeth Strong, and had three children, Richard of St. Louis, Mo., Elizabeth, who married Dr. Alfred Caffee and now lives in Woodgate, and Mary, who married Robert Hogue and died here a year ago. Richard had two children and Mary had one.

The other child was Anna, who married John C. Bartlett of Philadelphia, Pa., and had three children, Andrew, who married and had one child; Frances, who married Maurice Pennypacker, who had two children; and Charles, who married and had three children.

After Andrew started the two mills here, he was joined by one of his brothers, James Pollock Crawford, who had married Fanny Donnelley. J. P. and Fanny first lived on North Sixth Street, near where ISU Library is now, and later moved to 709 South Sixth Street, a two-story frame house which was later covered in brick and a third story added. It is still standing.

The couple had two daughters. One, Emma, married Benjamin Pine and they had one daughter, Mary Frances, who married Warren Hussey and now lives in Allendale. She had two daughters. The other daughter of J. P. and Fanny was Molly, who first married John Shaughnessy and later John O'Shea. They had no children.

These descendents of the two brothers are now scattered all over the country, only the few still in Terre Haute.

Two of Andrew's sons, James A., born in 1873, and John L., born in 1875, joined him in the business and after his death, carried on with the mills. Both had attended Pottstown School in Pottstown, Pa., and John also was graduated from Sheffield Scientific School of Yale College in 1896.

The first plant to open was the Vigo Iron Company, later the Terre Haute Iron and Nail works, and next, the Wabash Plant. The original one was in full blast and the first iron rolling Aug. 13, 1870. Capital stock of the company was $125,000, and officers of the company were A. L. Crawford, president; A. J. Crawford, secretary, and D. W. Minshall, treasurer.

The stack was 12 feet in diameter and 52 feet high. Material for making the iron was put in the top. The furnace was mostly built of fire brick, with large iron columns of one ton each in weight. It was expected that 13 tons of iron would be cast at a single blast, with two blasts made each day. Thus, 25 tons of iron were cast each 24 hours.

The cast house was of brick, and was 42 by 100 feet, 24 feet high, and the stock house was 60 by 140 feet, 20 feet high. Iron ore was brought here from the Mesabi range in Minnesota and melted down into ingots for use in making steel. Later, nails were made at the Crawford Street plant.

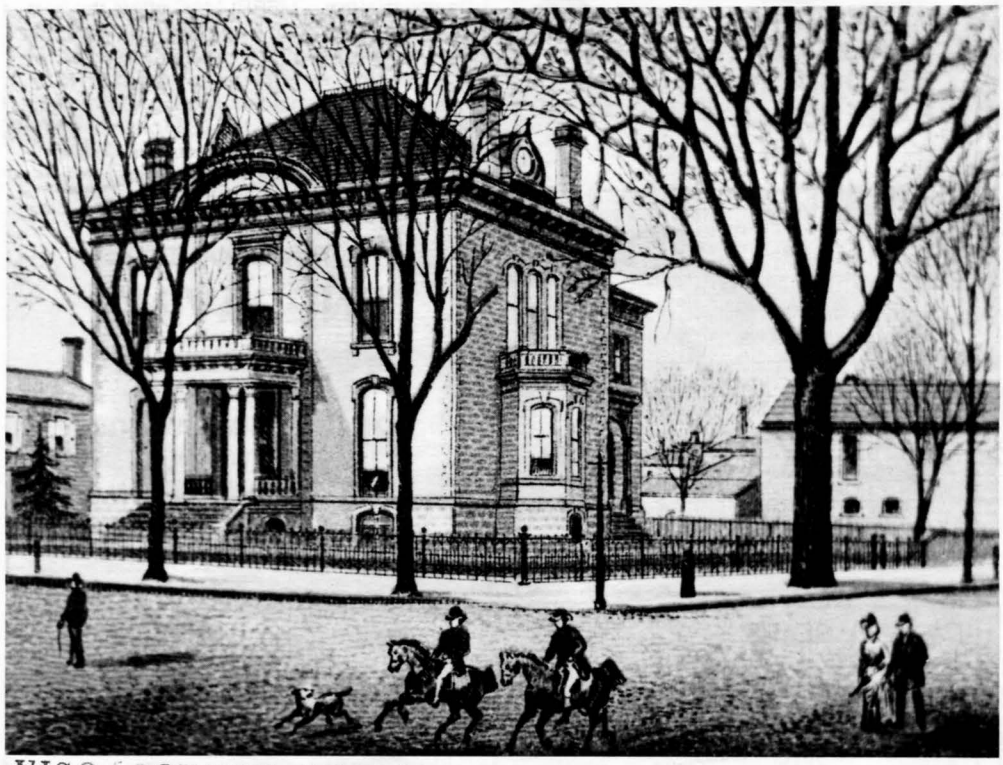
To heat these furnaces, much coal had to be used. This may have been one reason Terre Haute was selected for the mills as there was so much coal around here. After opening the two mills, the family later also bought the south mill.

The mills were bought by Republic Iron and Steel Company in 1899, and John acted as manager of these mills until July of 1903 when they were closed. He then became identified with the coal business and served as president of the Crawford Coal Company, director of the Indiana Coal Company, and president and treasurer of the Home Coal Company.

He also was a director of the Terre Haute National Bank, of which he was president at one time, and a director of the First National Bank and the United States Trust Company. He died in 1919.

James A. Crawford was shipping clerk at the Wabash Mill from 1891 until 1899. When the mills were sold, he stayed on as puddle boss until the mills were closed. With several others from Terre Haute, he started a horse breeding business on a ranch in North Dakota. He then became a wild catter for oil wells in this area and then in Kentucky and Illinois and in 1916, in Kansas and Oklahoma. He died in 1940.

Before digital prefixes on telephones, there was a Crawford prefix, named for the family. Crawford Street also was named for them as were many of the streets in Terre Haute named for prominent old families.



Andrew J. Crawford House.

VIGO COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

James Pollock Crawford

Warranty Deed from Jane Crain
to James P. Crawford 26 March 1858
1869 Report card of James Crawford

NEW CASTLE
UNION SCHOOLS
SECOND WARD.

ROOM No. 7

Report of James C. Crawford

for the Month ending Oct. 28th 1869

POSITION IN SCHOOL.

Number of days present during the month,	21½
Number of days absent during the month,	½
Number of daily recitations,	4
Number of recitations during the month,	88
Number recited correctly,	85
Number recited badly,	1
~~Number lost by being absent~~ ½ day	2
Times tardy during the month,	1
Conduct generally,	5
Per Centage,	97

R. C. French, *Teacher.*

M. GANTZ, Sup't.

Cause of Absence,

REMARKS.

Grade—**5** denotes *quite satisfactory;* **4** *very good;* **3** *middling good;* **2** *very defective;* **1** *positively bad.*

Name of the Parent or Guardian, A. Crawford

Note.—Parents are respectfully requested to examine the above report as often as it comes to hand, to write the *cause of absence* upon the proper line; and have it returned signed the following morning.

GAZETTE PRINT.

State of Indiana, Vigo County, ss:

Before me, Fred A. Ross, a Notary Public, in and for said County and State, this 20th day of March 1888

Jane Crain

acknowledged the execution of the annexed Deed.

Witness my hand and OFFICIAL SEAL this Twentieth day of March A. D. 1888.

Fred A. Ross
Notary Public.

NOTARY PUBLIC SEAL INDIANA

Filed March 26, 1888
Hank Cunningham Auditor.
Auditor's Fee, $ 10 cts

FRED A. ROSS & CO.,
REAL ESTATE BROKERS,
TERRE HAUTE, IND.

Warranty Deed.

FROM

Jane Crain

TO

James Crawford

RECEIVED FOR RECORD

The 26 day of March 1888 9 o'clock P. M., and recorded in Record 71 Page 303

Fred Cummings Recorder,
of Vigo County, Ind.
Recorder's Fee, $ 1.25 Paid

Warranty Deed.

This Indenture Witnesseth, That Jane Crain a widow

of Fern Dale Vigo County, in the State of Indiana

CONVEY AND WARRANT

to James P. Crawford

of Fern Dale Vigo County, in the State of Indiana for the sum of

Ten Thousand Dollars,

the following Real Estate, in Vigo County in the State of Indiana, to-wit:

The east half of the North half of subdivision Number Three (3) of the subdivision of Lot Nine Hundred Sixty Two (962) Sixty Three (63) and the West half of Sixty Four (64), of the original survey of the Town (now City) of Terre Haute, being one hundred & fifty feet in Sixty Six Stands, as laid down and numbered on plat of said Town - Surveyed in the Years of 1888.

In Witness Whereof, The said Jane Crain has

hereunto set her hand and seal this Fourteenth day of March 1888.

L. S.

L. S.

L. S.

L. S.

Jane Crain.

L. S.

L. S

L. S.

L. S